ing detailed cost price study by BICP are given below:

	Rs./Kg.
1. Acetazolamide	746.00
2. Ephedrne Hcl	1016.00
3. Metronidazole (BICP) recommendation is under consideration).	453.30
4. Aspirin	80.00
5. Chloramphenicol Powder	1035.00

(c) The factors that were taken into account in fixing such prices are steep increase in raw material costs, encouraging basic production, allowing return as per DPCO, 1987 etc.

(d) and (e) BICP recommend the prices as soon as they complete the cost-cum-technical study of each scheduled bulk drug. Getting recommendation of fair prices of scheduled drugs and notifying the prices is a continuous process. Appropriate action has been taken in respect of BICP reports received in the department.

Prices of non-scheduled bulk drugs

4615. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred Question 1359 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1988 and state:

(a) what are the names of the non-scheduled bulk drugs for which production is being monitored;

(b) what are the names of the producers of each such drug along with the stage of manufacture and production of each during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what are the names of bulk drugs for which prices have been increased after the announcement of DPCO, 1987 along with their earlier price, their present price and the percentage increase in each case;

(d) whether these companies have submitted the proforma as required;

(e) if so, what are the details of the basis of increase in each case;

(f) what are the names of the drugs for which the prices were found to be justified based on the proformas;

(g) whether any of the prices were found unjustified;

(h) if so, what are the details thereof;

(i) whether the price increases of ATS by 141 per cent and 161 per cent and Vitamin A Acetate by 6 per cent and 71 per cent after Government's interventions are justified; and

(j) if so, on what basis?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The information to the extent available is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 152]

(c) to (j) The bulk drug manufacturers are free to revise the prices of non-scheduled items as per the provision of DPCO, 1987 under intimation to the Govt. in proper forms. The increases in prices are monitored by the Deptt. on a case to case basis. in additio n

the Govt. is keeping close watch on the price behaviour of non-scheduled items and also intervenes wherever found necessary.

Increase in the prices of medicines

4606. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express of 2nd May, 1988 captioned "Escalating Drug Prices";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the prices of medicines under price decontrolled category have gone up by 60 per cent to 300 per cent;

(c) if so, what are the names of the medicines the increase in prices of which by 60 per cent to 300 per cent has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(d) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not put any ceiling on the increases;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(f) what was the number of bulk drugs which were under price control under DPCO, 1979 and how many have been deleted from price control under DPCO, 1987; and

(g) what are the reasons for deletion of each and in how many cases the prices have been increased?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) As per the provisions of DPCO, 1987, the manufacturers of decontrolled bulk drugs/formulations are free to revise the prices. However, Government is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary, details of which are given at Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLVII), Annexure No. 153]

(f) List of the referred bulk drugs are given in DPCO, 1979 and 1987, which have already been laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha.

(g) The price controlled drugs included in DPCO, 1987 are based on the recommendations of the *Ministry of Health & Family Welfare* and recommendations of Kelkar Committee.

Import of Potassium Penicillin

4607. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy in regard to import of potassium penicillin G/V which is used for the production of intermediates like 6 APA/7 ADCA.

(b) whether it is a fact that the import is allowed on the recommendations of his Ministry;

(c) what are the basis on which import is allowed;

(d) what is the quantity of penicillin G as well as V recommended by his Ministry during the last three years, year-wise in favour of each party;

(e) what is the quantity each party lifted from indigenous sources;